REMARKS:

- The present amendment makes a few clerical corrections in the specification, without involving new matter. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.
- 2) Claim 1 has been amended in an editorial manner for streamlining, simplifying and clarifying the claim language, without intending to change the meaning or scope of the claim. An indefinite aspect in line 8 of claim 1 has been addressed or avoided. Other amendments in claim 1 have been made for editorial and stylistic reasons, in comparison to the original text of claim 1, which was essentially a literal translation of a corresponding foreign claim. These amendments do not affect the patentability of claim 1. Also, these amendments do not introduce any new matter, because they are merely editorial and formal in nature. Entry and consideration of the claim amendment is respectfully requested.
- Referring to the bottom of page 2 of the Office Action, the rejection of claims 1 to 4 as indefinite under 35 USC \$112, second paragraph has been addressed in the present amendment of claim 1. The phrase ("the thickness direction") lacking antecedent basis has been avoided. Instead, line 8 of claim 1 now defines that the seat plate and the backrest plate each have "first openings penetrating through a respective thickness thereof". This formulation is submitted as clear, particular and

4626/WFF:ar

definite. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 1 to 4.

- 4) Referring to the top of page 3 of the Office Action, the indication of allowable subject matter in all original claims 1 to 4 is appreciated. Since the rejection for indefiniteness has been overcome as discussed above, the claims should now be in allowable condition.
- 5) Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, including all present claims 1 to 4, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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WFF:ar/4626

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CERTIFICATE OF FAX TRANSMISSION:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being transmitted by telefax to (703) 872-9306 on the date indicated below, and is addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Walter F. Fasse - Date: December 2, 2004

4626/WFF:ar